

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 120462

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:UN, ECOSOC, AORG, UN

SUBJECT:DIRECTOR, UN CENTER FOR TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS
(TNCS)

REF: USUN 1636, USUN 1652

1. DEPT. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY FURTHER REACTIONS TO CANDI-
DACIES OF SETTE CAMARA AND BUTLER THAT MISSION MAY HAVE
BEEN ABLE TO GATHER.

2. DEPARTMENT HAS HEARD THAT SYG IS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING
APPOINTING SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL NIEN-TZU WANG AS "HEAD"
OF THE CENTER (WITHOUT TITLE OF DIRECTOR) ON AN INTERIM
BASIS. THIS INTERIM SOLUTION WOULD ENABLE CENTER TO GET
ITS WORK PROGRAM UNDERWAY, LET CONTRACTS, HIRE PROFESSIONAL
STAFF, ETC., WHILE ALLOWING SYG MORE TIME TO CONSIDER
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APPOINTMENT OF A PERMANENT DIRECTOR--PERHAPS UNTIL THE

AUTUMN.

3. ON BASIS OF LIMITED INFORMATION AVAILABLE HERE, WANG WOULD SEEM TO HAVE APPROPRIATE PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR POST--PHD IN ECONOMICS FROM HARVARD AND EXTENSIVE UN EXPERIENCE. WE UNDERSTAND WANG PLAYED IMPORTANT PART IN DRAFTING OF 1973 SECRETARIAT PUBLICATION "MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS IN WORLD DEVELOPMENT" WHICH IN MANY RESPECTS WAS A MORE OBJECTIVE STUDY THAN THE SUBSEQUENT EMINENT PERSONS REPORT ON MNCS. SEVERAL AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN HAVE SPOKEN HIGHLY OF WANG TO DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS.

4. WHILE WANG HAS A PRO-WESTERN BACKGROUND, WE UNDERSTAND THAT WHEN PRC TOOK OVER CHINESE UN SEAT, HE AND OTHER NATIONALIST CHINESE WERE FORCED TO ACKNOWLEDGE PRC NATIONALITY TO RETAIN UN POSITIONS. WE HAVE HAD ONE UNCONFIRMED REPORT THAT WANG HAS BEEN PRESSURED TO APPLY FOR PRC PASSPORT AND TO VISIT PRC WHILE ON HOME LEAVE, WHICH HE IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE IN JUNE THIS YEAR. DESPITE THIS REPORT, WANG CONTINUED TO USE UN LAISSEZ PASSER TO LEAVE AND REENTER US IN TRIPS ABROAD EARLIER THIS YEAR AND LAST YEAR. THE QUESTION NATURALLY ARISES WHETHER WANG IS LIKELY TO BE SUBJECT TO UNDESIRABLE PRESSURES FROM THE PRC SHOULD HE BE APPOINTED TO HEAD CENTER.

5. DEPT. IS CONSULTING OTHER AGENCIES ON WANG'S BACKGROUND; IN THE MEANTIME MISSION COMMENTS WOULD BE APPRECIATED ON POSSIBILITY OF WANG'S APPOINTMENT AS INTERIM HEAD OF INFORMATION CENTER, TOGETHER WITH ANY INFORMATION ON HIS QUALIFICATIONS, HIS VIEWS (PARTICULARLY ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY OVER NATURAL RESOURCES), AND REACTIONS OF OTHER MISSIONS. DID WANG HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PREPARING 1973 SYG REPORT ON PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY? INGERSOLL

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